



AF/1725
JFW
A

PATENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on 12-Nov-04

Katie Hales
Katie Hales

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/781,688

Attorney Docket: DP-302901

Filing Date: 02/12/2001

Applicant: Malcolm Grieve et al.

Group Art Unit: 1725

Examiner: Tran, Len

Title: REFORMER CONTROLS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 14, 2004, please consider the remarks set forth herein.

The Office Action was made Final. However, all rejections in the Action are new grounds based upon a primary reference first cited in this Action, to which Applicants have not had an opportunity to respond. The Action contends that the new grounds were necessitated by Applicants' prior Amendment. However, it is believed that the prior Amendment mainly served to incorporate features of the dependent claims into the independent claims, and did not raise new issues necessitating new grounds. Therefore, it

is respectfully requested that the finality of the Office Action be withdrawn, to allow Applicants an opportunity to respond firstly and fully to the newly cited reference.